

yeare for any action upon that inconstant  
 element. The  
 preservation of the squadron under your  
 command is of  
 the last consequence/ <sup>1</sup> Negotiations  
 prevented further  
 attempts to fight. On November 30 James  
 issued a pro-  
 clamation announcing that a new Parliament  
 would be  
 called for January 15. Next day all the  
 captains in the  
 fleet signed an address of thanks to the King  
 declaring that  
 a Parliament was the only means left to quiet  
 the niinds of  
 the people, and trusting that it would lead to <sup>f</sup>  
 the settle-  
 ment in this realm both in Church and State,  
 according to  
 the established laws of the kingdom/  
 Dartmouth signed  
 it too, apologising to the King because the  
 officers were so  
 unanimous that he could not help himself,  
 and hoping  
 that it would be ' no offence nor disservice ' to  
 his Ma-  
 jesty.<sup>2</sup> Dartmouth's obedience had its limits.  
 He would  
 not join William of Orange, but he refused to  
 obey the  
 King's repeated orders to carry the Prince of  
 Wales to  
 France. It ' will be of fatal consequence ' , he  
 told James,  
 to your person, crown, and dignity, and all  
 your people  
 will (too probably) grow so much concerned at  
 this your  
 great mistrust, as to throw off their bounden  
 allegiance to  
 you. . . . Can the Prince's being sent to France,  
 have other  
 prospect than the entailing a perpetual war  
 upon your  
 nation and posterity ; and giving France  
 always a temp-  
 tation, to molest, invade, nay hazard the

conquest of Eng-  
land. . . . I will not be instrumental in, nor suffer  
him to be  
carried into France, if by any means I can  
prevent it.<sup>3</sup>

James yielded to this remonstrance and  
ordered the  
Prince to be sent to London instead,  
Dalrymple prints

<sup>1</sup> Ibid. p. 219. Nov. 29, 1688. Dalrymple (op. cit. ii.  
319-31) printed  
several of Dartmouth's letters. Since then the whole  
correspondence has  
been printed in Dartmouth MSS., i.

<sup>2</sup> Dartmouth MSS., i. 275. The address is printed in the  
Second Collection  
of Papers Relating to the Present Juncture of Affairs in  
England (1688).

<sup>3</sup> Dalrymple, op. cit. ii, App. pt. i, 328-30. Cf. Macaulay,  
III, 1171-4 (ix).